worn out exchanges, upgradation of external plants, use of Jelly filled cables, computerisation of services, improved customer services and holding of open Houses and Adalats.

Opening of New Post and Telegrph Offices in Punjab

2586. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the targets fixed for opening of new post and telegraph offices in the country in 1993-94, particularly in Punjab;

(b) whether the said target is likely to be achieved fully;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and if not, the reasons thereof; and

(d) what effective measures are being taken or proposed to be taken to open new post and telegraph offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): Post Offices

(a) A target for opening of 763 new post offices has been fixed to be opened duruing 1993-94 in the country and for Punjab a target of 13 new post offices has been fixed.

Post Offices

(b) and (c) The allotted targets, State-wise, will be achieved by 31.3.94.

Post Offices

(d) Post Offices are progressively opened subject to fulfilment of departmental norms, availability of funds and allocation of targets.

(a) to (d) Telegraph OOffices.

There is no target fixed for opening telegraph offices. There are opened on demand and traffic justification.

Waiting List of Telephones in Bombay and Delhi

2587. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce waiting list for telephones drastically;

(b) if so, the details of the action being taken and the achievements likely to be made by 31st March this year;

(c) what is the present stage of waiting list in Bombay/Delhi exchanges, area wise; and

(d) by when waiting list upto 1992 is likely to be covered in Delhi and Bombay exchanges, area wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (d) 8th Five Year Plan of Department of Telecommunications envisages waiting period not to exceed two years in large Telephone System like Bombay and Delhi. During 8th Five Year Plan it is proposed to provide 9,50,000 and 9,70,000 New Telephone Connections in Bombay and Delhi respectively.

75397 & 62938 New Telephone connections have been given so far in Bombay and Delhi respectively as against the planned target of 42880 and 76600 by 31st March this year.

(c) Information regarding waiting list positions as on 1.2.94 of Telephone exchanges in Bombay and Delhi. Area-wise is furnished in Statement-II and III. respectively.